



## Love and Mistletoe

*Zara Keane*

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**Falling for her enemy...**

Policeman Brian Glenn wants a promotion. Studying for a degree in criminology is the first step. When a member of Ballybeg's most notorious family struts into his forensic psychology class, his hopes for a peaceful semester are smashed to smithereens.

Sharon's had a rough few months. She knows her future job prospects depend on her finally finishing her degree. When she's paired with her secret crush for the semester project, she sees a chance for happiness. Can she persuade Brian that there's more to her than sequins, high heels, and a rap sheet?

## **Love and Mistletoe Details**

Date : Published October 28th 2016 (first published December 1st 2014)

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Author : Zara Keane

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## From Reader Review Love and Mistletoe for online ebook

### Book Binge says

Sharon McCarthy and Brian Glenn getting on each others nerves for years. Of course this is a case of they like each other but don't know how to go about getting near the other person. (If they were in elementary school in historical times Brian would have been dipping Sharon's braids into the ink well.)

They end up being in the same class at uni as Brian is trying to promote within the police department and Sharon is getting her psychology degree. They end up being put together as partners on a project and this forces them to get over themselves and actually talk to each other like normal people. They find they like each other even more than they thought and start to date.

Sharon's family has a horrible reputation in the Ballybeg community and her father's a real piece of work but she promised her mother before she died that she'll get her degree. I had to admire Sharon for trying to break out of the McCarthy mold and make something of herself besides a criminal. She's a unique person (and dresses uniquely as well) and that was off-putting to some folks. I was happy that Brian could see past Sharon's outer dressing to the lovely woman underneath.

Brian was a good guy. He'd had some bad moments in the past when he'd thought the worst of Sharon and her family but he wasn't one to stick with one thought and never give up. He was willing to accept that Sharon was different and he liked that about her. Together they made an unlikely but adorable couple.

Love and Mistletoe was just a sweet novella and one I really enjoyed reading. If you want a quick fun read with some Christmas spirit then this is a great choice.

Rating: 3.75 out of 5

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### Lisa Fallon says

I loved the first three books and wasn't sure I was going to love this one as much but I really enjoyed Sharon and Brian's story.

this books shorter than the others and hasn't got a much going on but it's a sweet story of two people who have had crushes on each other finally giving it a shot at being together despite him being the local cop and her being from a family who lives off crime.

they both found themselves in the same class at college and also being put together as partners, perfect way to kick off their " getting to really know each other" lol.

we see Sharon in the first book with Fiona but we just get that she's loud and blunt but this shows there's more to her than being from a notorious scumbag family.

I also found refreshing that neither Sharon or Brian are oh my God good looking they your everyday normal attractive people a big plus is my book as it can be boring everyone looking like they are supermodel good looking.

Brian I wasn't as keen at first thought he was a bit mean that he kept thinking the worse of Sharon but once him and Sharon spend time together we see him come out of his shell and I loved the fact he got handcuffed

to the radiator and had to call Sean for a spare key, he laughed it off with Sharon which surprised me for some reason I thought he was going to be stiff but he's perfect for Sharon.

another ballybeg hit, I have found myself falling for these people and their little village. cannot wait for Sean's book next as he's a dark horse.

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### **Trader (RedHotBlueReads) says**

4 1/2 stars

Another sweet love story from Ballybeg and this one has a lighter feel to it than Love and Leprechauns. Sharon MacCarthy has a reputation for trouble and dating a policeman is probably the last thing anyone in town would expect. When Brian and Sharon realize they are both in the same class at the university they attend and become project partners, they begin a love affair that turns serious.

This novella doesn't have a lot of conflict in it, and that was okay by me. I like that in a holiday story, along with the touch of humor in this novella.

Another great trip to Ballybeg!

ARC provided for review.

This review also appears on my blog at:

<http://redhotbluereads.blogspot.com/2014/12/reviewlove-and-leprechauns-love-and.html>

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### **Cynthia says**

#### **New Beginnings**

She comes from a family where most of the men have either been arrested more times than not. Her mother just passed from cancer and she is trying to finish her degree. He a local police officer and secretly has a crush on her. They end up having a college course together and are partnered on a project. They find out they are made for each other.

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### **Jackie Turner says**

I absolutely adored this short in Zara Keane's Ballybeg series!

It follows one of the MacCarthy's —yay! We get to read about Ruarí's little sister!— and one of the Garda named Brian. We get to read about how this unlikely couple falls for each other and I loved that Zara included a three years later at the end of the book!

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## **Dympna Mahon says**

This is the fourth book in the Ballybeg series, which you can read in order or as a standalone.

Brian Glenn is a Guard with the Ballybeg Garda Station and he is looking for a promotion. He wants a to have a family someday so that means he wants a raise in pay and to do that he has to get his degree in Criminology. Brian is infatuated with a particular woman who has captured his attention even though she has a bad past.

Sharon MacCarthy is in her final year of working on her psychology degree. Sharon has a lot to overcome. Her father is not an upstanding citizen, and Sharon has gotten into a lot of trouble in the past but in the last few years has turned her life around.

The connection between Sharon and Brian is intense. They make a great couple even though each of them don't see the other as willing to take a chance on them for different reasons.

Every single book in this series have been an enjoyable read and I am looking forward to starting Book 5!

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## **Elle Markov says**

Sharon MacCarthy has a tiny, okay maybe a somewhat big crush on Brian Glenn; only one problem he's a Garda, which is Irish for police officer. As the towns resident bad girl, whose been arrested a time or two by the cute Garda, she thinks she doesn't stand a chance; her only hope is to move out of her vile father's, finish her degree, and move out of her small town.

Garda Brian Glenn wants a promotion; he wants to move up the ranks and the only way to do that is to get a degree, so that's exactly what he does. Being so close to finishing, he doesn't need the distraction that is his favorite bad girl.

When they end up in the same class and to add fuel to their fire, they have to work on a project very closely together, they start to see each other in a different light, without the labels of Garda and Bad Girl.

The story was a fun light-hearted read with entertaining characters. I especially loved the epilogue, where we get to see what became of them down the line. Despite being named "Love and Mistletoe" the whole story begins before the holidays, so it's not centered around Christmas. I was really glad I read this book and can't wait to read other books written by Ms. Keane.

Rating 5 out of 5

Read@Book

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## **Jayna says**

A nice little glimpse into Ballybeg for Brian and Sharon.

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## **Victoria Rainey says**

Love and Mistletoe is the fourth book in the Ballybeg series by Zara Keane. This book can be read as a standalone novel with ease but I find its best read as part of the series. This is because some of the characters in this book were found in some of the past books.

Brian Glenn is a police officer with the Ballybeg police department who is looking for a promotion. He wants a to have a family someday so that means he wants a raise in pay and to do that he has to get his degree. Brian is infatuated with a particular woman who has captured his attention even though she has a shady past.

Sharon MacCarthy is in her final year of working on her psychology degree. Sharon has a lot to overcome. Her father is not an upstanding citizen, and Sharon has gotten into a lot of trouble in the past but in the last few years has turned her life around.

The connection between Sharon and Brian is intense. They make a great couple even though each of them don't see the other as willing to take a chance on them for different reasons. I enjoyed seeing them fall in love with each other.

I found this book well written with a realist plot. The main characters and the secondary characters were interesting. At 84 pages, this book had a well defined beginning, middle and ending. While the ending was a bit predictable given the length of the story, this story is about how Sharon and Brian fall in love. I had a hard time putting this book down. This series keeps getting better and better with each book. Overall, this was a great book!

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## **☆ BJ's Book Blog ☆Janeane ☆ says**

Advanced copy received from the author for an honest review

Throughout this series, I have been keen to know more about Sharon McCarthy - is she the trouble-maker she has always been made out to be/

This sweet novella is about Sharon and the local constabulary Brian Glenn. And what a fun ride we are taken on.

I have to say I adored Brian (even with his red hair - gingers are so not my thing!!). And the banter between this pair is cute and funny. You can just feel that all the tension between them is going to lead to something great.

So, does it? Nope, for that you are going to have to read for yourself.

I find myself immersed in the world of Ballybeg, and each and every book in this series I adore even more. Love love LOVED this one!

Can't wait for the next book, Love and Shamrocks!!

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### **Cassey says**

A quick, sweet read. It gets bonus points for taking place in Ireland :)

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### **Jo-Anne says**

What a great Christmas novella about Sharon MacCarthy and Brian Glenn. This seemed like an unlikely match since Sharon had a reputation for being a trouble maker and Brian was the local constabulary. You will just have to read this story to find out if/how it works for them. The writing was fantastic making life in a small Irish village very appealing. This Christmas story was a humorous, quick read that I really enjoyed.

The descriptions of the characters made it easy to picture them. They really made the story, in my opinion. Sharon was so funny - actually her entire family was hilarious. Brian was Sharon's complete opposite being much more reserved.

As a whole this was a quick, happy, enjoyable read that I recommend.

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### **Heidi says**

I was gifted a copy of this fab book in exchange for my honest opinions and a review.

This is the fourth book in the Ballybeg series, which you can read in order or as a standalone, personally i highly advise you to read all of Zara's amazing books.

What a delightful heartfelt funny romantic Christmas read you cannot get anything better than the Ladies and Gents of Ballybeg.

Brian Glenn works hard as policeman he so wants a promotion. He has been Studying hard for a degree in criminology, This is first step. But all changes when one member of Ballybeg's most notorious family strolls into the very class that he is attending forensic psychology, his hopes and dreams for a quiet semester soon vanish in to thin air.

Sharon MacCarthy is just about the very last woman he should ever get involved with, but Brian cannot help himself Sharon makes him hot and extremely bothered she makes him get.

Can Brian really survive this semester without surrendering to Sharon's charms?

Sharon has had a very rough few months. She has grown up so much now and knows her future job prospects certainly depend on her finishing her degree. And just when things were going smoothly she is paired up with Brian who happens to be her secret crush.

Can Sharon survive this temptation?

Sharon now sees a chance for proper happiness and true love. But Can she persuade Brian of this and that there's much more to her than what he see's and has read on her rap sheet.

This book has it all Love Laughter and some twists along the way, Zara Keane has an incredible mind as well as talent i adore the Ballybeg series and cant wait for more.

4 Out Of 5 Hearts From Cariad Books

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### **Jonel Boyko says**

What a fantastic Christmas novella. I absolutely loved this trip back to Ballybeg. Keane tells an intimate story full of emotion and laughter. Her polished, inviting style really drew me in and I devoured the story in less than 2 hours. The way that she draws you into this small town is so complete that you feel as if you're really there.

Keane makes it so easy to picture these characters. Her descriptions bring them to life in a way that you can easily see while her subtle character development really lets you get to know them as individuals. Sharon's antics are priceless. She definitely made me laugh throughout. Brian's toned down views are the perfect counterpoint.

This was an absolutely fantastic read. Keane has produced a fast paced, quick read that is still a brilliantly complete story in and of itself. I would definitely recommend picking up a copy.

Please note that I received a complimentary copy of this work in exchange for an honest review.

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